

“SPEAKING OF BOOKS” @ The Library

Come “talk books” with a book discussion group at the Main Library. Readers gather monthly on the third Wednesday at 1 pm for lively conversation about a selected title. “Speaking of Books” meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 1 pm in the Library. No registration is necessary and light refreshments are served. Call Elisa Rollins at the Reference Desk at 455-6310 for further information.

***The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain**

March 21



History is sadly neglectful of the supporting players in the lives of great artists. Fortunately, fiction can bring attention to these people. Paula McLain brings Hadley Richardson Hemingway out from the formidable shadow of her famous husband, Ernest. After a whirlwind courtship, Hadley and Ernest enjoyed the fast and furious expatriate lifestyle in 1920s Paris. While McLain gives intimate glimpses of many literary giants of the era, e.g. Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound, James Joyce, and F. Scott Fitzgerald, the novel’s focus is Hadley. Though eventually a woman scorned, Hadley is able to acknowledge without rancor or bitterness that “Hem had helped me to see what I really was and what I could do.” This novel is an unsentimental tribute to a woman who acted with grace and strength as her marriage crumbled. This book is also available as a free ebook at vppl.lib.overdrive.com.

***The Virginia Plan: William B. Thalheimer and a Rescue from Nazi Germany* by Robert Gillette**

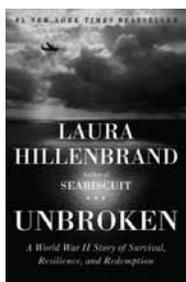
April 18

Among the Jews attempting to flee Nazi Germany before World War II were the students of the Gross Breesen Institute, young men and women who had trained in the agricultural sciences in hopes of securing visas and a refuge elsewhere. Department store owner William B. Thalheimer, a member of the Jewish community of Richmond, created a safe haven for these students on a farm in Burkeville. Robert Gillette recounts the remarkable history of Thalheimer’s heroic rescue mission and the struggle of the refugees to make a new home in rural America. This book is also available as a free ebook at vppl.lib.overdrive.com. The author will present this year’s **Lynchburg Reads Lecture** about “The Virginia Plan” on Monday, April 2, at 7:30 pm, at the Wimberly Recital Hall, Randolph College.



***Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption* by Laura Hillenbrand**

May 16



Unbroken is the inspiring true story of a man who survived a series of catastrophes almost too incredible to be believed. Laura Hillenbrand describes the life of Louie Zamperini, a former juvenile delinquent who became a champion runner in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Having joined the Army Air Corps during WWII, Zamperini’s B-24 was shot down over the Pacific. Captured and imprisoned in the harshest Japanese war camp, Louie and his fellow POWs made attempts on the camp commander’s life, committed sabotage, and risked their own lives to save others. A physical and mental wreck by the end of the war, Zamperini now works with Japanese individuals and groups who accept responsibility for Japanese mistreatment of POWs. Hillenbrand’s account of Zamperini’s ability to maintain his humanity despite the monumental degradations he suffered is inspiring. This book is also available as a free ebook at vppl.lib.overdrive.com.

African American Trailblazers 2012 Exhibit

April 16 through May 26

In observance of African American History Month, the Library of Virginia honors eight distinguished Virginians as the 2012 African American Trailblazers in Virginia history for their contributions to Virginia and the nation. Those being honored this year include an anthropologist, an athlete, an

entrepreneur, a filmmaker, a political leader, a civil rights activist, a religious leader, and a principal in a civil rights lawsuit. This traveling exhibit can be seen at the Main Library from April 16 through May 26. For more information, visit the Library of Virginia’s website.

Wake up! It's Spring!

Saturday, March 24, 1:00 pm

Presented by Laura Rogers and her animal friends from the Nature Zone. Have you ever wondered why frogs don't freeze, where snakes snooze, or where turtles tunnel during the winter? Then come and learn about the survival skills of cold-blooded amphibians and reptiles during cold weather and how they know when it's time to wake up. Recommended for ages 5 and up.



Author's Visit: Doug Wilhelm

Monday, April 23, 7:00 pm

Recommended for
teens and adults



Doug Wilhelm is the author of 14 books for young adults, including 13 works of fiction. His focus is on realistic characters and situations, strong stories, an element of humor, and the empowerment of young readers in a complex world. Doug's latest book is True Shoes, a sequel to The Revealers. Anyone who is concerned about the classic drama that happens in a middle schooler's daily life, is invited to attend.

Spring Break @ the Library

During the week of April 9, Youth Services will offer a variety of events to encourage families to come to the library and have fun. *Come check us out!*

Monday	April 9	Movie Dolphin Tales	10:00 am 2:00 pm	113 minutes Rated PG
Tuesday	April 10	Family Storytime Mo Willems and Me	10:30 am 2:00 pm	Recommended for listeners ages 3-7
Wednesday	April 11	Spring Craft	Drop-in between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm	For children of all ages
Thursday	April 12	The World in Your Hands A program about globes; includes a craft to make a globe. Presented by Omniterrum	1:00 pm	Recommended for ages 8-12
Friday	April 13	Board Games	Drop-in between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm	For children of all ages

Civil War Medicine:

Maybe They Weren't So Barbaric...

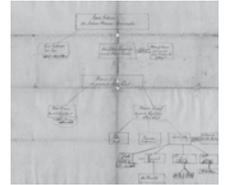
Tuesday, March 27, 11am – noon

Helping to mark the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, Dr. Scott Garrett will use his collection of Civil War medical kits to demonstrate the medical procedures and techniques that physicians used during the Civil War and how what they learned helped improve our medical care today. Garrett, a retired surgeon, currently serves as State Representative for the 23rd District. The program is free and open to the public. Call 455-6310 for more information.

Stories of Lynchburg Found in Local Court Records

Thursday, April 26, 6:30 - 8 pm

Every box of old materials an archivist opens is full of stories, and musty old bundles of Lynchburg court records are good examples. Greg Crawford, the Local Records Archivist at the Library of Virginia, will explore the wealth of historical and genealogical information about Lynchburg's past residents found during the Library's efforts to preserve the historic records of Virginia, its localities, and people. The program will be held in the Community Meeting Room and is free and open to the public. Call 455-6310 for more information.



Flag Day -- Celebrating Old Glory's 235th Birthday

Thursday, June 14, 1:00 pm

Just how much do you know about our national flag? What do the stars and stripes represent? When did the flag have 15 stripes? What do the colors symbolize? How many stars were on the flag during the Civil War? What does it mean when the flag is flown at half-mast? Learn the answers to these questions and more. Children's handprints will be used to create an American Flag to be displayed all summer. This program is supported by the James River Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.